

## STATE OF TEXAS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

As a nation that embraces tradition, honor, and the strength of our founding principles, the United States abounds with iconic and meaningful symbols, from the bald eagle to the Liberty Bell. These evocative symbols of America represent freedom and prosperity—none more so than our country's flag, which is perhaps the greatest symbol of the many freedoms afforded us by the brave Americans who have fought and died under the banner of Old Glory.

The flag of the United States of America has a rich and intriguing history, from tales and folklore about Betsy Ross sewing the flag at the request of George Washington to the specific meanings behind its colors and pattern—themselves symbols of our country's history, valor, and vigilance. The legacy of the red, white, and blue has endured for generations, and it remains a stirring emblem of freedom and perseverance, as moving today as it was on a morning in 1814 when Francis Scott Key observed a single, resolute flag still flying over Fort McHenry in the aftermath of a British bombardment, compelling him to pen the poem that would become our national anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner."

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed a presidential proclamation declaring June 14 to be Flag Day as a way to officially commemorate the adoption of the flag of the United States of America by the Second Continental Congress on June 14, 1777. Since this declaration, Americans have used the day to celebrate our country's excellence and to reflect on what it means to enjoy the many freedoms granted to us by the sacrifices of so many.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to demonstrate their patriotism by proudly flying the flag of the United States of America. It serves as an emblem of the country we love and a reminder to always honor the men and women who sacrificed so much to make our country the wonderful place it is today.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim June 14, 2022, to be

Flag Day

in Texas and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 3rd day of June, 2022.

Governor of Texas